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USAID MINING INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR AFGHAN SUSTAINABILITY (MIDAS)

ANNUAL AO AND IR LEVEL REPORT
1 OCTOBER 2015 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2016



Contract Number: AID-306-TO-13-00003

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DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACOR	Alternate Contracting Officer's Representative
AGS	Afghanistan Geological Survey
APA	Afghanistan Petroleum Authority
CO	Contracting Officer
COP	Chief of Party
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
DO	Development Objectives
EPSC	Exploration Production Sharing Contract
ESSP	Extractives Sector Support Program
CNPCIW	China National Petroleum Corporation International Watan
E-WP	ECC Water & Power LLC
FY	Fiscal Year
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
GPS	Global Positioning System
IR	Intermediate Results
IP	Implementing Partner
MIDAS	Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability
MoMP	Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (formerly Ministry of Mines)
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PSU	Project Support Unit
RF	Result Framework
TAPI	Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India
TL	Team Leader
TO	Task Order
TOR	Term of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United State Government

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the USAID MIDAS project is to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to efficiently and responsibly develop the mining sector. As originally designed, the MIDAS project was initially divided into three components. The first component focuses on developing the legal and policy framework for the mining sector. The second component focused on mineral exploration and capacity building for the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) and the Afghan Geological Survey (AGS). The third component (de-scoped in December 2015) focused on private sector development to foster a strong enabling environment for small and medium-sized Afghan enterprises in the extractives industry.

Contract Information	
Project Title	Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability (MIDAS)
USAID Contract Number	AID-306-TO-13-00003
Contracting Officer's Representative (COR)	Mike Jordy
Contracting Officer	Alexis McGinness
Current Period of Performance	October 2015 - September 2016
Prime Contractor	ECC Water and Power LLC

I. INTRODUCTION

The Mining Investment and Production for Afghan Sustainability (MIDAS) project provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) to transform itself into the regulatory body for the extractives sector of Afghanistan. Some steps toward this transformation have already been undertaken, but to secure the progress achieved and to further strengthen the shift of the MoMP away from its former role as a Soviet-style monopoly in the sector, more work needs to be done. The essence of this work will be to assist Ministry in opening the extractive sector to private investment while focusing MoMP's attention on how to monitor the activities of those private firms—both large and small—to exact a safe working environment, sound environmental protection, sensible community development, and maximization of revenues for the people of Afghanistan.

I.1 Project Objectives

- Reforming Extractive Sector Policy and Regulations
- Strengthen Capacity at MoMP

Both objectives are in line with USAID Forward to promote sustainable development through high-impact partnerships and local solutions. The project is consistent with the U.S. Economic Transition Strategy for Afghanistan which states that sustainable macroeconomic and fiscal policies, strengthened governance, capacity, and economic structure are major pillars that support growth, and if left unaddressed will constrain growth. Strong economic governance and an improved enabling environment has the potential to transform all economic sectors, to increase private sector investment and job creation, and to enhance Afghan government revenue.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) were defined by USAID in Task Order AID-306-TO-13-00003 and define the structure of the multi-year MIDAS project.

The general Scope of Work required has been divided into two components, each of which is designed to produce specific results while contributing to the overall project purpose:

I.2 Component I - Reform the Legal and Regulatory Regime of the Extractive Sector

With the support of the MIDAS project, the Ministry has adopted new legislative instruments for the extractives sector over the past three (3) years that have helped to begin the transformation of the MoMP into a regulatory body for the extractive sector that promotes investor-friendly resource development in Afghanistan. However, the efforts are not yet complete. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) must continue to press for reform in these regards and continue to fine-tune its legal and regulatory provisions, among many others, on royalty, tax, environmental and licensing matters as well as implementing procedures in the extractive sector. The entire legal and regulatory framework for the extractive sector should be aligned with world class standards. MIDAS Component I will provide technical assistance to MoMP to continue its effort to bring the legal and regulatory regime of its extractive sector into alignment with international norms for such sectors.

Result 1.1: Legislation and a regulatory framework, including internal procedures, that establishes MoMP as the primary regulatory authority for the extractive sector, and which promotes business activities and revenue generation by being better aligned with international norms for national extractive sectors.

Result 1.2: Substantial progress toward establishing a legal and regulatory regime, including internal procedures, for the extractive sector which encourages domestic and foreign investment in the extractive sector and ensures appropriate financial gains, rights and protections for GIRoA and the people of Afghanistan.

Result 1.3: Develop the legal capacity of MoMP such that it will be more self-sufficient in the future regulation of the extractive sector, including in the areas of licensing, contracting, enforcement, dispute settlement, and revenue management.

1.3 Component II - Build Capacity of MoMP to Determine the Value of Natural Resources

The MIDAS project has worked to expand the capacity of the MoMP to conduct resource, financial, economic, and policy analyses for the development of the extractive industries in Afghanistan. The team has worked to create databases, industry-standard documentation, and promotional materials aimed at attracting private investment in the mining sector. Capacity building has also focused on contracts management, procurement, and strategic planning.

Assistance has also been provided to enhance the capacity of the Afghan Geological Survey (AGS). In light of the global collapse in commodity prices during 2015 and the resulting curtailment of exploration and development activities worldwide, technical support and advisory services to the AGS were provided by a small, streamlined specialty group working in the following areas: (1) consolidating AGS technical data scattered around the agency into a single location, accessible by domestic and international investors; (2) providing geophysical GIS training and capacity development to provincial MoMP and AGS offices and staff; (3) Technical advisory and capacity Development Service to AGS Geophysics team; (4) Training of Top AGS field Geologists; and (5) Information packages for the Ministry.

Result 2.1: Capacity throughout MoMP to develop, promote and manage tenders for domestic and international investors developed.

Result 2.2: Capacity to efficiently allocate, disburse and manage development assistance as well as appropriately manage the revenues that the extractives sector will produce.

2.TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report serves as the annual assistance objective level report for the Mining Investment and Development for Afghanistan Sustainability (MIDAS) project. As per the task order agreement, MIDAS is required to provide report to USAID in accordance with AIDAR clause 752.242-70 and the annual report is required as per the section – F, subsection A “Annual AO and IR Level Results Report”:

The Contractor shall submit a draft annual Assistance Objective (AO) and Intermediate Results (IR) level results report describing contract progress using the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation System and the numerical targets established in this Task Order. This report shall be submitted in draft to the TOCOR by an agreed-upon date that allows sufficient time for it to be used in preparing the Mission’s annual report. The TOCOR will provide comments within 15 calendar days, and the Contractor shall then submit a final draft to the TOCOR for approval within 15 calendar days of receipt of the TOCOR’s comments.

3. MIDAS RESULTS FRAMEWORK

(linked to USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy)

The Results Framework is a guide to the project activities required to accomplish intended results. It is a necessary foundation for work planning, performance monitoring, and quality assurance. The results framework maps out project activities designed to achieve USAID's higher-level Development Objectives (DOs) stated in the Mission-wide USAID Afghanistan Results Framework M&E Plan, and to contribute to its short and long-term results. It is an important management and learning tool for the technical team.

MIDAS contributes to the following USAID/Afghanistan Sub IR:

Sub IR 3.2.2: Policies and Procedures Improved

MIDAS Component One, which is focused on reforming extractives sector laws and regulations, and MIDAS Component Two, which is focused on capacity building of government employees in the extractives sector, is linked to Sub IR 3.2.2 of the USAID Afghanistan results framework. The indicators chosen are meaningful, necessary, and sufficient. They will accurately verify and measure results of the project in line with ADS 203 requirements. The indicators will accurately verify and measure results of the project in line with ADS 203 requirements.

Moreover, this annual report provides progress against pre-defined targets that were selected during the development of the M&E Plan (PMP), and approved by USAID. The MIDAS M&E Plan was approved on July 31, 2016 and MIDAS has implemented the project activities in line with the project M&E Plan and indicators.

As part of the project M&E Plan, MIDAS has also developed a comprehensive Results Framework (RF) that precisely corresponds to the USAID Assistance Objectives, Intermediate Results and subsequent sub-intermediate results. The indicators developed are also based on these objectives. Moreover, one MIDAS indicator is drawn from the standard indicators' list of USAID and four other MIDAS indicators are custom made indicators that specifically fall under the MIDAS component activities.

The MIDAS Results Framework is illustrated in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: MIDAS Results Framework

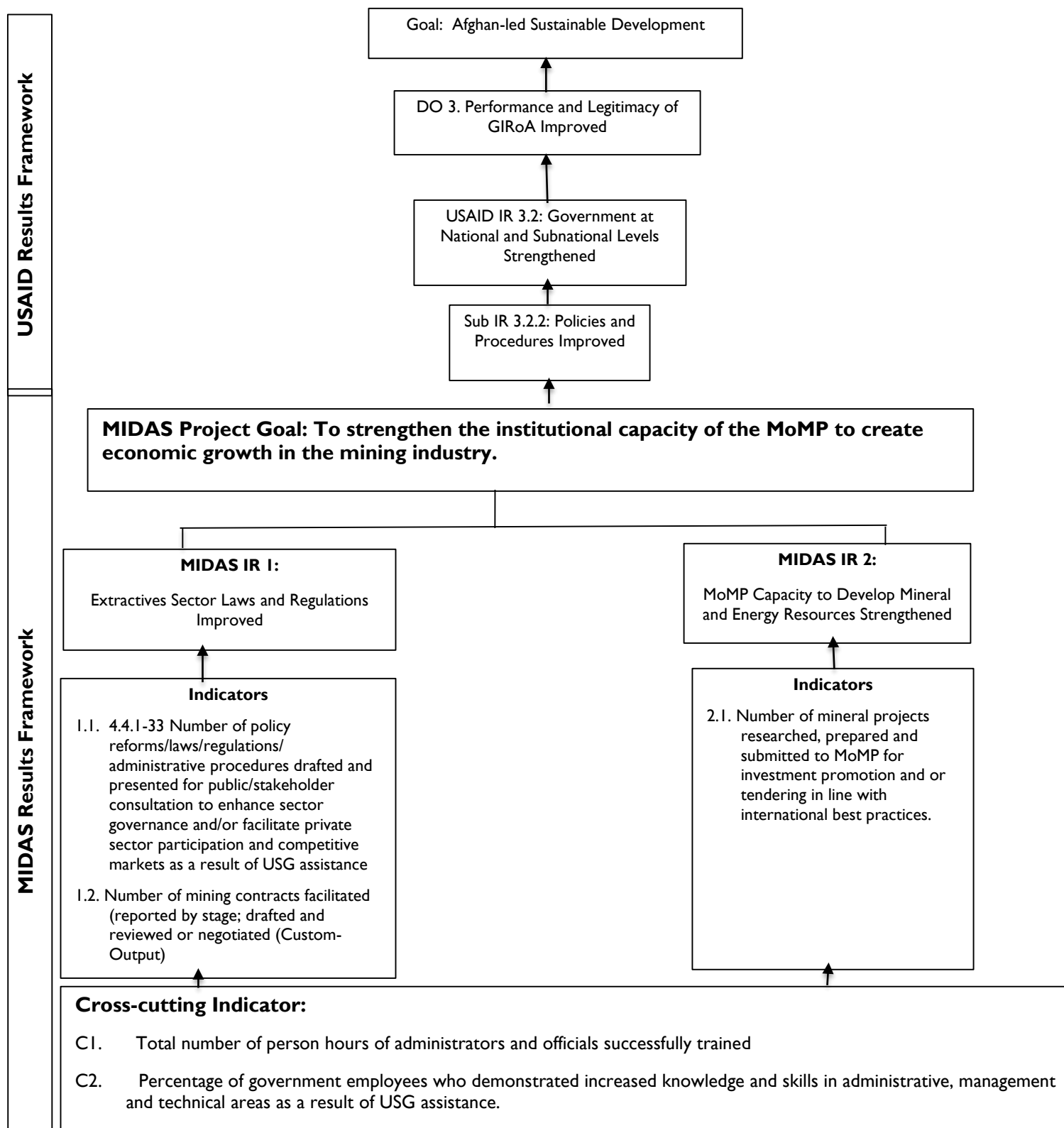


Figure 2: List of indicators

#	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Is this a standard Indicator	Unit of Measures	Disaggregated by	Data source	Reporting Frequency	Type of Indicator
Component 1: Reforming Mining Law and Regulation							
I.1	4.4.1-33 Number of policy reforms / laws / regulations / administrative procedures drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation to enhance sector governance and/or facilitate private sector participation and competitive markets as a result of USG assistance.	Yes	Number	Drafted and Presented	MoMP and IP	Annual	Output
I.2.	Number of mining contracts facilitated (reported by stage; drafted and reviewed or negotiated.	No	Number	Drafted, Reviewed or Negotiated	MoMP and IP	Quarterly	Output
Component 2: Strengthening Capacity at the MoMP							
2.1.	Number of mineral projects researched, prepared and submitted to MoMP for investment promotion and or tendering in line with international best practices.	No	Number	Number of mineral projects researched, prepared and submitted	MoMP, AGS and IP	Quarterly	Output
Cross Cutting Indicators							
C1.	Total number of person hours of administrators and officials successfully trained.	No	Number	# Person hours / # of Male / Female	MoMP, IP and attendance sheets of participants	Quarterly	Output
C2.	Percentage of government employees who demonstrated increased knowledge and skills in administrative, management and technical areas as a result of USG assistance.	No	Percent	Male / Female	Pre-Post Tests Result	Annual	Outcome

4. ANNUAL PROGRESS SUMMARY

I. Component I: Reform the Legal and Regulatory Regime of the Extractives Sector.

Component I provided technical assistance to the MoMP in Analyzing, Drafting and Reviewing the MoMP Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures and assisted the MoMP in contract review and negotiations. Special attention was paid to ensure that reforms protect the rights of the Afghan people and government.

In order to achieve this objective, MIDAS conducted the following activities during the year:

- 1) **World-Class Legal Training on Contract Negotiations.** MIDAS provided several trainings for MoMP Legal officials to increase their knowledge and skills inside ministry and abroad. Component I provided Minerals Contracts Drafting and Negotiations Training in New York. Eight participants from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) traveled to Columbia University in New York City, with the support of MIDAS, to attend a five-day training on mineral contract drafting, negotiation, and review from October 12-16, 2015.
- 2) **Development of Regulations Move Forward.** MIDAS legal advisors worked to draft, review and complete extensively on the development of MoMP regulations for the 2014 Minerals Law. These include regulations on Contract Oversight Regulation, Gas Regulation, Coal Regulation, Retaining High-Quality Regulation, Mining Technical Regulation, Mining Financial Regulation, Mining Contracts Bidding & Application Regulation, Mining Health and Safety Regulation and Use of Explosive Regulation.
- 3) **Development of Procedures.** MIDAS legal advisors worked with the MoMP Legal Department to analyze, draft, review, complete and implement the MoMP internal procedures. These include procedures on Internal Working Procedures of MoMP's Directorates, Collection of Revenues from License & Authorization Holders procedure, Review & Scrutinizing Board procedure, and collection of revenue for the use of construction materials procedure, Sale of Unusable Government Equipment procedure, granting artisanal mining contract procedure, Transfer of License and Mining Contract procedure and Working Procedures for the Inter-Ministerial Commission.
- 4) **Development of Policies.** MIDAS Legal advisors also worked on MoMP policies. In this reporting period they drafted one new policy and submitted one policy for review. This include policies in Anti-Corruption Policy and Urea Fertilizer Policy.
- 5) **Proposed Amendments to the Minerals Law Finalized.** MIDAS legal advisors worked with the MoMP's Legal Department to develop amendments to improve the Minerals Law of 2014. The Minister approved the package of amendments and submitted them to the Ministry of Justice for review. After review by the Ministry of Justice, the proposed amendments will next be sent to the Council of the Ministers for approval and then finally to Parliament for review and approval.
- 6) **Legal Review and Negotiate for Ministry Contracts:** MIDAS advisors supported MoMP legal officials to review conflicts, transfer requests, legal/surface rent disputes, and a host of other issues concerning 23 contracts in the minerals sector and negotiated five contracts with MoMP sub-contractors. These efforts follow a request from President Ghani to ensure Ministry issued-contracts fall in line with the minerals law and maximize the benefit for the Afghan people.

- 7) Re-negotiations Began for Amu Darya EPSC, Afghanistan's Largest Oil Production Project.** MIDAS advisors, senior MoMP advisors, and legal / financial experts from the DFID-funded Extractives Sector Support Program (ESSP) held several meetings with CNPCIW to negotiate the issues at the Ministry. MIDAS advisors provided many hours of on-demand advising to the Acting Minister of Mines, her deputies, and the Afghanistan Petroleum Authority (APA) on how to execute negotiations. The negotiations concluded without much progress. MIDAS will continue to provide support for other EPSCs which are a critical component for Afghanistan to take control of its energy and economic future.
- 8) TAPI Pipeline Activities.** During the reporting period, MIDAS advisors supported the MoMP to review legal documents and provide legal, contractual advice on the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) project. MIDAS Advisor also attended in two meeting of TAPI gas pipeline meeting in Ashgabad and Herat province. The MIDAS Legal Advisor assisted the Deputy Minister of Policy & Programs during the steering committee meeting, wrote a speech for Deputy Minister Hamidi, and assisted the MoMP Director General of the Afghan Gas Enterprise during several sessions. MIDAS legal advisor also prepared and sent a report to the National Security Advisor of the Afghan Government on the recent progress of the TAPI Gas Pipeline project.

II. Component II - Build Capacity of MoMP to Determine the Value of Natural Resources

MIDAS supported the MoMP and the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) to build value in the extractives sector through targeted exploration work, including mineral drilling. MIDAS provided extensive training programs to MoMP and AGS technical staff and have intensively built the capacity of the Ministry, as well as strengthened the Ministry to document mineral information in an industry-standard, investor-friendly way.

MIDAS component II implemented a number of activities, and produced valuable and tangible results that include:

- 1) Two MIDAS-Supported Tender Packages Approved by Afghan Government.** MIDAS advisors helped advisors from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) develop two tenders for cement projects in Herat and Samangan, creating expressions of interest, a tender package, cement data packages, and references to create a package for tender to private investors. The two tenders were published on the Ministry website but no qualified investors were identified in the first solicitation. A third tender on granite in Bamiyan is in development with MIDAS support.
- 2) Capacity-Building program for MoMP and AGS Officials.** MIDAS Component II provided 30 different topic trainings that provided 2817 person hours of trainings on different topics for MoMP and AGS technical staff during the FY2016. Capacity building of MoMP and AGS staff is a key function for MIDAS Component II. MIDAS put strong focus on strengthening capacity within MoMP and AGS during base period of the project to ensure field teams at AGS are ready for the field exploration work to be carried out by MIDAS.
- 3) Fifteen-day Geophysics Training with Geological Survey of Finland in India.** A MIDAS geophysical advisor, together with technical advisors from the Geological Survey of Finland (GTK), held a training in New Delhi, India for nine geophysics employees from the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS). Training was provided on magnetic and gravimetric geophysics, induced polarization (IP) resistivity, electromagnetic, geology, building stones, and petro physics.
- 4) MoMP Internship Program Ended.** The MIDAS project discontinued the Internship program on March 30, 2016 concurrent with the end of Option Period I. The Internship Program was conceived as a means of

offering recent graduates (with bachelors or masters degrees) an opportunity to gain hands-on experience and skills working in a Ministry setting. MoMP staff working at the Manager, Director or Deputy Minister level agreed to provide the interns with mentoring, capacity development and work experience in the extractives sector while the MIDAS project provided a very nominal stipend to cover transportation costs.

- 5) **MIDAS Awards GPS Devices to AGS.** MIDAS advisors awarded six modern GPS devices to the Acting Director General of the AGS on March 13. The devices will be used by several different departments of the AGS to support its mission to identify mineral deposits to attract investment in Afghanistan's minerals sector.
- 6) **Capacity Assessment of all 26 MoMP Directorates.** A needs assessment report was conducted in collaboration with the World Bank and the MoMP. A final report was submitted to the Director of the Project Support Unit (PSU) at the MoMP. The needs assessment showed a vast disparity of managerial positions compared to operational positions. Many staff lack general knowledge of the ministry outside their respective directorate. The assessment also highlighted a lack of inter-department communication.
- 7) **Mentorship for Kabul University Student and Future Geophysicist.** AGS officials requested for the MIDAS geophysics advisors to mentor a student from Kabul University, as part of the on-going cooperation between the AGS and the Kabul University Science Department.
- 8) **Field Geological Notebooks Issued to AGS Geologists.** Geologists from the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS), headed to the field with standardized data collection materials for the first time, designed with the support of USAID-MIDAS. On July 26, 2016, fifty-four AGS geologists received copies of industry-standard geological field data recording notebooks and the coding sheets at the AGS.
- 9) **Top-Down Review of MoMP Contractual Instruments.** MIDAS advisors are supporting the Procurement Directorate to conduct a top-down review of all on-going contracts, purchase orders, and all contractual instruments. During last two quarters, they focused on reviewing documents from the Retail Purchase, Construction Contracts, and Commodity Departments. During the preliminary review of files, advisors noted that none of the departments have a standard filing system, checklist, or files consistency.
- 10) **Technical advisory services to MoMP.** MIDAS international and national advisors have regularly provided on-demand technical support to MoMP and AGS directorates.

5. PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

This section briefly describes progress against key performance indicators. MIDAS M&E plan defines indicators and targets for key component activities and key cross cutting activities. In total, there are five indicators set for period of October 2015 to March 2017 for two components and a Cross Cutting section. Below is a brief summary of indicators' progress for each component and Cross Cutting from October 2015 to September 2016:

Component I:

1.1 4.4.1-33 Number of policy reforms / laws / regulations / administrative procedures drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation to enhance sector governance and/or facilitate private sector participation and competitive markets as a result of USG assistance.

MIDAS was able to exceed the set target (10) for this indicator; MIDAS achieved 20 (200% achievement).

During the period, MIDAS advisors supporting the drafting of 3 new regulations, submitted 2 regulations for review and 2 regulations were approved within the MoMP and ready for implementation. MIDAS advisors analyzed new one procedure, drafted 2 new procedures, and completed 2 procedures (they are ready for implementation) and 3 procedures have already been implemented within all MoMP Directorates. MIDAS also drafted one new policy and submitted one policy for review to MoMP and MoJ. Advisors also reviewed one mineral law during this period.

1.2. Number of mining contracts facilitated (reported by stage; drafted and reviewed or negotiated)

MIDAS Component I achieved the target (7 contracts reviewed and negotiated) of this indicator; MIDAS achieved 30 (drafted one new contract, reviewed 23 contracts and negotiated on 5 contracts) during this FY.

Component II:

2.1. Number of mineral projects researched, prepared and submitted to MoMP for investment promotion and or tendering in line with international best practices.

The target for FY 2016 for this indicator was set as six (6) mineral project to be researched, prepared and submitted to MoMP for investment promotion and or tendering in line with international best practices. During this period, MIDAS submitted 3 completed tender packages of mineral projects that research and prepared to MoMP.

The target for this indicator was not achieved because of decisions taken by USAID to discontinue mineral exploration activity and begin a shift in project emphasis towards hydrocarbons in line with then-Minister Saba's requests. Thus, this indicator cannot be achieved and will be modified in the next M&E Plan. MIDAS has not worked on this indicator since Q3 2016.

Cross Cutting:

CI. Total number of person hours of administrators and officials successfully trained.

MIDAS set a target of 4000 person hours of training for this indicator. MIDAS provided 2817 person hours trainings within 30 different topics during this period.

MIDAS was unable to achieve the target of this indicator due to changes in MoMP and USAID priorities., specifically a decision by USAID not to fund certain mineral and hydrocarbon contract review programs (plus financial modeling and extractives sector fiscal regime short courses) planned for Q3 and Q4 (each of these programs; each program / seminar would have involved a minimum of 10 MoMP / GIRoA staff receiving at least 40 hours of training per program. The net result of this decision to refocus resources was that MIDAS was effectively precluded from achieving the 4,000-hour target for FY 2016.

C2. Percentage of government employees who demonstrated increased knowledge and skills in administrative, management and technical areas as a result of USG assistance.

MIDAS was able to achieve the set target for this indicator in period of FY2016. MIDAS with 30 different topic trainings that were able to increase 62% of MoMP and AGS staff knowledge and skills in administrative, management and technical areas.

6. SUMMARY OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS ACHIEVED

#	Performance Indicator	Type of Indicator	Target for FY2016	Disaggregated by	Unit	Baseline Value	Achieved (FY16)	Status
Component I: Reforming Mining Policy and Regulation								
I.1	4.4.1-33 Number of policy reforms / laws / regulations / administrative procedures drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation to enhance sector governance and/or facilitate private sector participation and competitive markets as a result of USG assistance.	F	10 (6 Completed Regulations + 4 procedures will be submitted for adoption to MoMP)	Drafted and Presented	#	0	20 (9 Regulations, 2 policies, 8 procedures and 1 law)	<p>During FY 2016, MIDAS advisors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafted 3 regulations • Reviewed 4 regulation • Completed 2 regulations • Analyzed 1 procedure • Drafted 2 procedures • Completed 2 procedures • Implemented 3 procedures • Drafted 1 policy • Reviewed 1 policy • Reviewed 1 law. <p>Note: This is a cumulative indicator</p>
I.2	Number of mining contracts facilitated (reported by stage; drafted and reviewed or negotiated.	Custom	7	Drafted, Reviewed or Negotiated	#	0	29	<p>MIDAS advisors did the following during the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafted 1 contract • Reviewed 23 contracts • Negotiated 5 contracts

Component 2: Strengthening Capacity at the MoMP								
2.1	Number of mineral projects researched, prepared and submitted to MoMP for investment promotion and or tendering in line with international best practices. (Custom - Output)	Custom	6	Number of mineral projects researched, prepared and submitted.	#	0	3	USAID made a decision not to fund the activities related to achieve the indicators of this activity. Therefore, MIDAS has not worked on mineral project for investment promotion and or tendering to MoMP since Q3 2016.
Cross-Cutting Indicator Result/Outcome								
C1	Total number of person hours of administrators and officials successfully trained	Custom	4000 (Person Hours)	Number Person hours / Number of Males and Females	#	0	2817 (Person Hours)	Decisions by USAID after the start of OP 2 to not fund these activities due to changes in MoMP and USAID priorities will preclude MIDAS from achieving the 4,000-hour target for FY 2016.
C2	Percentage of government employees who demonstrated increased knowledge and skills in administrative, management and technical areas as a result of USG assistance.	Custom	35%	Male and Female	%	0	62%	This indicator was achieved. MIDAS technical teams conducted Pre-Post Test from each training to assess % of increase knowledge and skills of MoMP and AGS officials from trainings.
Note: The MIDAS Monitoring & Evaluation Plan set indicator targets from October 2015 to March 2017. The M&E team will provide an M&E plan modification and will submit a revised M&E Plan for the April 2016 - March 2017 period to USAID for approval since the activities related to Indicator 2.1, C1 and C2 have been discontinued effective October 27, 2016 and subsequently these indicator cannot be achieved.								

7. CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

The extremely low levels of capacity and motivation of MoMP and AGS employees continues to be a major challenge. Added to this is the fact that during the course of the MIDAS project, the program has dealt with five different Ministers (2 permanent, 3 Acting / Interim) and the major changes in policies / priorities that come with each change in leadership. Lastly, the Ministry continues to be plagued with a tremendous number of unfilled positions (over 250 vacancies; many key departments, such as the Afghan Petroleum Authority, operate with 50% or more of staff positions unfilled); as of the date of this report, 23 of 26 Director (department heads) positions at the Ministry remain vacant or filled by lower-level Tashkeel workers serving on an interim basis. The net result has been significant delays in decision-making within the Ministry.

8. LESSONS LEARNED

The MIDAS project learned to adopt a great deal of flexibility in its program. Shifting leadership within the MoMP forced project advisors to revamp project priorities and to work with USAID to make the necessary rescope changes to meet the demand from the MoMP.

MIDAS advisors found that relationships and trust between trainers and participants often supersede official orders and demands from senior Afghan government officials. In the beginning, many ministry officials were reticent to work with outsiders and it took time to build trust with them. For example, for the AGS trainings related to mineral exploration, it took a year of relationship building to finally get the geologists to release some of their data. MIDAS advisors showed them official letters from the AGS Director, department heads and even the Deputy Ministers but the geologists still would not share some of their field data. Only after building trust with the geologists were they willing to share their information with MIDAS advisors.

ANNEX I: LIST OF DELIVERABLES FY 2016

Deliverables Tracker Sheet				
#	Name of Deliverable	Date Submitted	Component #	Remarks
1	Monthly Report October 2015	05-Nov-2015	ALL	
2	Monthly Report November 2015	05-Dec-2015	ALL	
3	Monthly Report December 2015	05-Jan-2016	ALL	
4	Monthly Report January 2016	05-Feb-2016	ALL	
5	Monthly Report February 2016	05-Mar-2016	ALL	
6	Monthly Report March 2016	05-Apr-2016	ALL	
7	Monthly Report April 2016	05-May-2016	ALL	
8	Monthly Report May 2016	05-Jun-2016	ALL	
9	Monthly Report June 2016	05-Jul-2016	ALL	
10	Monthly Report July 2016	05-Aug-2016	ALL	
11	Monthly Report August 2016	05-Sep-2016	ALL	
12	Monthly Report September 2016	05-Oct-2016	ALL	
13	Quarterly Report Oct - December 2015	30-Jan-2016	ALL	
14	Quarterly Report January - March 2016	30-April-2016	ALL	
15	Quarterly Report April - June 2016	31-Jul - 2016	ALL	
16	Quarterly Report July - September 2016	30-Oct-2016	ALL	
19	New M&E Plan	31-July -2016	N/A	
17	Training Assessment Report	13-Aug-2016	ALL	
18	Training Needs Assessment Report	13-Aug-2016	ALL	
20	STTA Report (Eric Podzorski)	16-Sep -2016	N/A	
21	STTA Report (Peter Jezek)	22-May-2016	N/A	
22	Annual Work Plan	28-Jun-2016	ALL	

ANNEX II: KEY ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED DURING FY 2016

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
I	High-level contract negotiation training at Columbia University in New York for eight participants from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP)	To ensure that the Ministry's legal term has a complete understanding of contracts, and can better manage the current contracts it is responsible for. The goal was to empower MoMP lawyers to better re-negotiate the Aynak copper contracts.	Participants have the necessary knowledge and lessons learned to improve future mining contract negotiations.	October 12-17, 2015	New York, USA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
I	TAPI gas pipeline meeting held in Istanbul	To support MoMP officials to create and deliver presentation on the progress of the TAPI gas pipeline for the energy committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The meeting included signing an investment agreement, the discussion of draft articles of association for the TAPI Pipeline Company, and an agreement on the business principles for GAIL, an Indian Oil and Gas Company representing the Indian Government.	Increased likelihood of TAPI project implementation and revenue delivered to the Afghan Government	February 19-21, 2016	Istanbul, Turkey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
I	Two trainings on Report Writing and Legal Research for eight employees of the Legal directorate of the MoMP.	To train the legal staff of the MoMP on legal research and writing reports including report types, structure and flow	Improved capacity of legal staff to communicate their work and progress as well as to adequately	March 14, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashtoonistan MoMP	34.520381	69.181603

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
			located the legal precedents and documents necessary to make legal determinations						
I	Two trainings on professional email correspondence and web searching for legal information	To teach the legal staff how to write more professional emails and to utilize web searches to find legal information using parameters such as document type, time period, and site name.	Able to use the internet to locate relevant legal documents and make better legal determinations Using specific parameters, a document can be retrieved much more quickly.	March 22, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashtoonistan MoMP	34.520381	69.181603
I	Support to Brief Afghan Parliament on Nuclear Energy Law	To support the acting Legal Director of the MoMP and Director General of the Nuclear Energy Authority to brief the Natural Resource Committee of the Upper House on the upcoming Nuclear Energy Law. Provided support to answer committee questions.	Improved chances of passing the law in a way that benefits the Afghan people.	March 26, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashtoonistan MoMP	34.520381	69.181603
I	MoMP legal officials with collaboration of MIDAS Senior legal advisors analyzed a MoMP internal work procedure rule. Advisors analyzed internal procedural rules for each MoMP	The internal work procedure rule was analyzed because MoMP wants to draft an internal work procedure rule for each MoMP Directorate. MoMP Directorates lack an understanding of all their responsibilities. The aim is to establish standard working procedures.	An internal work procedure rule was analyzed	From April to June 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
	Directorate.								
I	MoMP legal officials with collaboration of MIDAS Senior legal advisors drafted three regulations	Three regulations (Bidding Regulation, Gas Regulation, and Coal Regulation) drafted for review of MoMP Acting Minister	Three regulations drafted	From April to June 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	MoMP legal officials with collaboration of MIDAS Senior legal advisors drafted a contract with MAIL for the purchase and sale of Urea	MoMP drafted a new contract with MAIL for the purchase and sale of Urea	A new contract drafted	From April to June 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	MoMP legal officials with collaboration of MIDAS Senior legal advisors reviewed 12 mining contracts from different provinces	Mining contracts reviewed for any modifications or changes.	12 mining contracts reviewed by MoMP with collaboration of MIDAS Senior advisors.	From April to June 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	MIDAS advisors supported MoMP officials to follow-up on the Explosives Use and Health and Safety Regulations	To review and make any edits to the regulations and send to the MoJ for review.	Two regulations approved by MoJ	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
I	MIDAS advisors supported MoMP officials to follow-up on the procedures for revenue collection for use of construction materials and the procedure for the sale of unusable government equipment	To review and make any requested edits to the procedures and to being to train the relevant directorates on how to implement them.	Two procedure approved and implemented	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	MIDAS Senior legal advisors supported MoMP legal officials to submit a policy on Urea Fertilizer to MoMP acting Minister for review.	To produce a policy on Urea Fertilizer	Urea use and pricing set so that transactions can continue between MoMP and MAIL.	Throughout July 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	Memo Drafted for Senior Government Officials to Justify Procedure on Construction Materials Revenue Collection following request from MoMP Legal Director	To draft a memo to justify the Constructions Materials Procedure to the Cabinet and Council of Ministers.	A standard way to provide oversight for the use of construction materials in Afghanistan.	Throughout July 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	MoMP legal officials with collaboration of MIDAS Senior legal advisors drafted two procedures on the (1) Collection of Revenues from	To draft a procedure on Collection of Revenues and to create a review and monitoring board at the MoMP to allow for additional oversight in the contracting process at MoMP. Once drafted, the procedures	Revenue collection procedures standardized and codified in a transparent way. A review and	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information					
	License and Authorization Holders, and on (2) a Review and Monitoring Board	will be sent to the MoMP Acting Minister for review.	monitoring board will be created to add an additional layer of transparency in the contracting process at MoMP.							
I	<p>MoMP legal officials with collaboration of MIDAS Senior legal advisors completed and submitted 4 regulations to the MoMP acting Minister for review.</p> <p>1 - Retaining High-Quality Engineers Regulation.</p> <p>2 - Mining Technical Regulation.</p> <p>3 - Mining Financial Regulation.</p> <p>4 - Mining Contracts Bidding & Application Regulation.</p>	<p>1 – To create a regulation at that allows for high-quality engineers to receive compensation closer to market rates.</p> <p>2 – To regulate all of the technical areas of the mining process including licensing, contracting, and other aspects.</p> <p>3 – To regulate the financial aspects of the mining sector including royalties and taxes.</p> <p>4 – To regulate the bidding process for contracts in the mining sector.</p>	<p>1 – A cadre of high-quality engineers able to be hired by MoMP.</p> <p>2 – A standard and transparent way for managing mineral extraction in a clear and transparent way</p> <p>3 - To administer the financial aspects of the mining sector.</p> <p>4 - A clear and transparent bidding process created for investors which will attract more investment.</p>	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603	

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
I	MIDAS Senior legal advisors supported MoMP legal officials to revise the amendments to the minerals law.	To finalize edits of the draft amendments to the Minerals Law and submit them to the acting Minister.	A set of amendments drafted that will create an investor-friendly and accountable mining sector.	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I	MoMP legal officials with MIDAS support reviewed 9 contracts from different provinces	MoMP senior officials with collaboration of MIDAS reviewed nine contracts including Kilo Goldmines Offer for Hajigak Block-A, the Lalandar Chromite Contract, the Andkhoe Salt Contract, the Amu Darya Contract, the Marble Contract between Hadil Brothers Company and MoMP	MoMP Contracts executed accurate and standard way	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Training on how to process geospatial data gathered in the field, including how to download and process data, plotting cross sections, and quantitative interpretation.	To educate the AGS geophysical team on information processing, plotting and interpretation.	Increased understanding of AGS staff on processing, analysis and interpretation of geophysical survey data	October 18-21, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslah AGS	34.529147	69.19845
II	Training on the Creation of Standardized Geological Maps	To develop standard map templates for different map sizes (A4 to A0 paper sizes) and orientation (portrait and landscape) so that investors know and understand the format and can use it for mineral exploration and extraction.	Improved capacity of AGS staff to compile information and create tenders for mineral deposits that are understandable and attractive to	January 5-11, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	Maslah AGS	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
			investors						
II	Training on Geophysical Survey Methods and Equipment Data Processing and Manipulation	To learn about the different types of analysis including magnetics, gravity, radiometric, EM and electrical as well as to learn about data processing and interpretation using Geo- soft, GIS plots, analysis, interpretation, and 3D manipulation.	The aim of the training was to educate AGS geologists on developing smart mapping technics and use of geological instruments for measuring structures, GPS use and GIS-based plotting.	January 23-24, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
II	Training on industry-standard geological mapping techniques, trenching, database management, and data plotting.	To train participants to better analyze the wealth of information gathered by the AGS over decades. Data is often plotted on maps, but rarely analyzed.	The geologists will utilize these skills for future planning, implementation and evaluation of mineral exploration programs.	February 22-23, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
II	Training on GIS-supported geophysical training using seismic methods for 14 geologists and geophysicists at the AGS.	To train on geophysics and empower them to better interpret information during and after field visits.	Improved ability to assess the size and amount of a mineral deposit.	February 22-23, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	AGS	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information					
II	Trainings on core drilling, core handling, resource estimation and 3D visualization for an elite group of geologists from the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS).	To provide an overview of the different types drilling machines and their functions as well as international standards for handling and logging mineral cores and other drilling samples.	Improved ability to analyze and to determine mineral content and improve capacity to use this data to determine whether a mineral deposit is a viable investment for extraction.	March 5-9, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	AGS	34.529147	69.19845	
II	Fifteen-day Geophysics Training on the subjects of Magnetic, gravimetric geophysics and induced polarization in New Delhi, India	To learn about received standard class training on geophysics crucial subjects such as Petro physics, building stones, and electromagnetic, induced polarization and gravimetric.	Improved capacity to gather data about mineral deposits to potential investors and better manage mineral exploration procedures	March 8-22, 2016	New Delhi, India	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
II	Resource Estimation Training for AGS Geologists using 3D visualization	To utilize 3D visualization software to better infer the size, grade, shape, location, and tonnage of a mineral deposit.	Improved understanding of the mineral exploration process and better prepared to communicate with investors	March 26-30, 2016	Kabul	Kabul	AGS	34.529147	69.19845	
II	Introduction to Resource Estimation (Classical Methods)	Conducted a preliminary training on resource estimation	Basic calculations of resource using polygonal and triangular	April 4-6, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845	

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
			methods						
II	Geological Core Logging	Went through modern core handling and processing methods.	Modern logging sheets completed with core logging data from Shibartu drill core entered.	April 16 to May 2, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Practical Exercises on all Phases of Mineral Exploration	Underwent exercises on 3 Point Problems and Stereonet projections	Correct calculation of strike, dip direction and angle on 3 Point Problems and Stereonet plots of structural measurements	April 8-10, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Geological Database Compilation and Management	Learned to use computer-based database system and abbreviated codes for exploration database that can be applied to fieldwork.	Standardized codes for geological terms applicable to Afghanistan setting which will make references much easier to read	May 4, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Develop information package on Afghanistan Barite Deposits	Conducted literature research, collates technical data and compiled information of Afghanistan Barite deposits.	Information tender package on Afghanistan Barite deposits	May 21-25, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
II	Preparation of 2016 Geophysical Survey Work Plan for the AGS Minerals Directorate	MIDAS helped AGS peers prepare their geophysical survey work plan for 2016. Advisors reviewed of the geological report and planned for the necessary geophysical methods to be used.	Approved Field Work Plan for 2016 and Budget	May 15-31, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Magnetometer and Gravity Methods Training for AGS Geophysics Team	Presentation and practical training on Magnetic and Gravity Geophysical methods to understand the purpose of magnetic surveys in exploration, the source of magnetic fields, how to process and model magnetic data, and measuring for gravity.	Trainees will have the basic theory and understanding of geophysical methods as well as have the ability to prepare geophysical maps and cross sections.	June 4-8, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	GIS Training for AGS Geophysics Team	This training aimed to improve participants' techniques in GIS mapping	The AGS staff learned how to use geo-referencing, to define projections for the faster data.	May 7-18, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	GIS Training for AGS Provincial Geology Units	Discussion with provincial geological team on GIS capability needs. Lecture and practical exercises focused on local geological data for geo-processing, creating different map layers, converting coordinates and plotting in AGS	Local / regional maps created in GIS software and maps plotted in standard AGS templates.	June 11-21, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
		standard templates. Basic GIS applications were introduced including ArcMap menu functions to enable the team to process their own data.							
II	Information package developed on Afghanistan Sulphur Deposits	Conducted literature research, collated technical data and compiled information of Afghanistan Sulphur deposits	Information tender package on Afghanistan Sulphur deposits	June 18-29, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Information package developed on Afghanistan Talc Deposits	Conducted literature research, collated technical data and compiled information of Afghanistan Talc deposits	Information tender package on Afghanistan Talc deposits	May 14-18, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Technical report writing	Mentored AGS Mapping team to transform existing field exploration reports (Bamyan Cu-Au Skarn and Panjshir REE deposits) into an industry-standard format	AGS Technical Reports in NI-43 101 compliant format	On-going since May 1, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Petro physics equipment inspection	Measurement physical properties of different types of rocks	Petro physics data will be used to interpret geophysical anomalies	April 9-12, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
II	Completed 3 Information / Tender Packages and submitted to Acting Minister for approval.	MIDAS with cooperation of MoMP completed 3 Information / Tender packages for gypsum, fluorspar and granite	N/A	April 1 - June 30, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Support Good Government Conference	The Conference agenda was about Good Government and specially on how MoMP can better manage Afghanistan's minerals resources	N/A	April 17, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
I, II	M&E / Training Assessment and Training Need Assessments	The two assessments aimed to understand the trainings MoMP officials received last year and the type of trainings they need. The results will help MIDAS to know the effectiveness of their trainings and inform the design of a capacity building plan for MoMP & AGS staff.	N/A	June 8-29, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Top-Down Review of MoMP Contractual Instruments.	MIDAS advisors are supporting the Procurement Directorate to conduct a top-down review of all on-going contracts, purchase orders, and all contractual instruments.	To create standard filling system, checklist, and files consistency.	July to September 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Worked on Herat Barite map standardization, digitization and finalizing	To work with AGS officials to digitize and analyze old Soviet data on the Herat Barite mineral area of interest.	A set of data created that can be used to identify a potential Barite	July to September 2016					

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
			deposit and attract investors to extract the mineral.						
II	Support the Creation of a New Gemstone Action Plan	To incorporate the ideas of government officials, private investors and civil society into a comprehensive plan for the development of the gemstone sector in Afghanistan.	A finalized plan that empower the more efficient and transparent development of the gemstone sector.	July 1-20 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Meetings with Department for International Development (DFID) and British Geological Survey International (BGSi) to improve coordination	To eliminate any potential overlap and to increase cooperation between DFID/BGSi and the Ministry's Investment Promotion Directorate	The Investment Promotion Directorate will be trained in a more coordinated and efficient way.	July 12, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Support the Development of a National Minerals Policy	To develop a national minerals policy that will guide the development of mining sector.	A more efficient process for identifying extracting mineral deposits in Afghanistan	14 July 14 to September 30, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Field Geological Notebooks Complete and Printed in collaboration with AGS Geologists.	To distribute the finalized books to fifty-four geologists to prepare them for the upcoming field season. The books will allow for data recording and uploading in a quick and standard way.	Improve ability for AGS geologists to record field data in order to better-develop maps and graphs and empower more efficient exploration.	July 26-27, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
II	Developed Strategy for Investment Promotion Directorate	To create an investor strategy that can convince more domestic and international investors to participate in the extractive industries in Afghanistan.	MoMP able to utilize a new strategy to attract new investors in the extractive industries sector	August 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Review of TAPI Documents	At the request of the Acting Minister, MIDAS legal advisors reviewed two manuals prepared for the TAPI project.	TAPI project signed with a viable deal for Afghanistan	August 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
II	Eight Geophysics Training Sessions for Petrophysics Laboratory of the AGS	To increase the knowledge of the geophysics team on how to use petrophysics equipment and how to analyze minerals.	Increased understanding of the AGS Petrophysic lab staff to analyze minerals and support mineral exploration	August 20-29 , 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.529147	69.19845
II	Fourteen Computer Training Sessions for MoMP Procurement Directorate	Based on a needs assessment, MoMP Procurement Directorate staff were found to have little if any computer knowledge. MIDAS advisors designed programs to train procurement officials to use Microsoft Windows, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook to facilitate future capacity development work, including digitize requests, letters, vendor certificates, and more,	A more efficient and computer-literate Procurement Directorate that can rapidly and accurately process contracts, licenses and other documents electronically	August 27 to September 30, 2016	Kabul	N/A	N/A	34.520381	69.181603
III	MIDAS advisors traveled to the offices of Diamond Geo	To mentor the company's staff on writing a business plan and developing a budget.	The firm will operate their business more	October 27, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	N/A	N/A	N/A

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
	Engineering Services, one of the AMEI participant firms.		efficiently and with a more informed strategy.						